CSDP Website Updates

Recent updates have been made to the Chicago Social Drinking Project (CSDP) website—
http://socialdrinking.uchicago.edu

These updates serve to better accommodate everyone during the next steps of follow-up with CSDP.

Please visit the ‘Returning Participants’ section to find information on:

- **Completing Follow-Ups** — Access your online follow-up surveys via links on our website. It will save you time!

- **Follow-Up Timeline** — View the overall follow-up schedule for the next five years to know what is coming up in the future.

- **5-Year Retest Sessions** — Obtain information about your 5-year experimental re-test sessions, which take place at our facility.

- **Raffles and Study Gifts** — View past raffle winners and request replacement gift items if yours have been lost or broken.

- **Past Copies of the Newsletter** — Look through archived copies of the newsletter starting at the beginning of the CSDP.

- **Updates on Study** — Check in for updates on the CSDP and other studies in our lab.

- **And More….**

  Check it out and bookmark us at:

  http://socialdrinking.uchicago.edu/

The Decline of the British Pub

The “public house” (or pub) has been a staple of British society for over 1000 years. As the hub of local society, the pub has acted as both sanctuary and meeting place. However, shifting economic times appear to be threatening this beloved institution.

Increases in the price of beer (a 9% increase this year with more promised in the future) have resulted in the lowest rate of consumption in the country since the Great Depression. In addition, local, family-owned pubs have been bought out by corporations only interested in short-term profits. A recent smoking ban has appeared to further decrease pub patronage.

Although some pub owners have attempted to adapt by adding supplemental income sources (expanded food menus, general stores, etc.), the decline continues.

The decline of the British pub raises the question with many Brits as to whether, in our environment of increasing email, text messaging, and automated telephone customer service, community interpersonal relations may be falling by the wayside.

Source: Newsweek, Oct 20, 2008

October Lottery

The 7th CSDP Bi-Annual Follow-Up Lottery was conducted in October 2008.

**$100 Gift Card**

# 591 was the recipient of the grand prize, and upon receiving the news, was speechless!

**Additional Winners**

Runner-ups (#579 and #585) received $10 gift cards.

The next drawing will be held in April 2009!
It’s been a busy Fall at the Chicago Social Drinking Project. We’ve been hard at work and gearing up for the next stages in the study. Here’s a little recap of what we’ve been up to:

**Launched 4-YR Follow-Ups**
In October 2008, we started contacting participants who are at their 4-year anniversary of enrollment. The revised online survey is easier to finish than in the past and includes the same measures you’ve completed before plus a few new surveys. We hope to maintain our 99.1% follow-up rate from the first two years.

**Planning for 5-YR Follow-Ups**
The 5-year anniversary of your enrollment in the study is an important juncture and will entail a more comprehensive follow-up of moods, life transitions, drinking, and other substance use patterns. It will also include two experimental re-test sessions in our clinical laboratory. Our preparations include setting up our space to run these sessions, purchasing new equipment, and making travel arrangements for participants who need them. The first 5-year re-test sessions will be conducted in March 2009. Feel free to contact us with any questions you may have about this part of the study.

**Results and Output**
Recently we submitted a manuscript for publication in a scientific journal in which we supported the validity of one of the mood scales you completed during the experimental sessions and developed a shorter version (6 items vs. 14 items) that other researchers may find more helpful and efficient to use in the future. The paper is currently under review—we’ll be sure to keep you updated!